

British Columbia Airstream Club

www.airstreambc.com



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UNIT OFFICERS 2022-2023

President John Millard, 604.536.6372 millard12581@gmail.com 1st VPs Trenor & Barbara Tilley, 604.290.2887 tilley2007@outlook.com 2rd VPs Recording & Corresponding Secretary Chris Millard, 604.536.6372 millard12581@gmail.com Treasurer Carolyn Stewart, 604.217.1688 unit121wbcci.tr@gmail.com Past President Ralph Vanderheide, (deceased) Directors (Lower Mainland) Bob Halliwell, 778-808-7257 halliwell4840@telus.net Arlene Matches, 604.535.4237 matches7403@gmail.com Director (Island) Currently vacant Director (Inlerior) Charlie & Sharon Wieder 250.231.8240 char,shar,wieder@me.com Director (USA) Currently vacant Youth Ambassador Currently vacant

"the news"

MAY 2023



John's Journal

Welcome to May everyone!

Let's all hope that the adage "*April Showers brings May Flowers*" is true this year and we say goodbye to a rather nasty, wet, and cold early spring.

From April 14-16 we had our first rally in Abbotsford courtesy of Bob and Gayle Halliwell. The event was well attended with 6 units in attendance flanked by Bob and Gayle's fleet. The weather was pretty good and most of the trailers had a thorough looking over. Some minor repairs were also completed onsite which was appreciated by the members. New members included Rick Mattson & Karen Griffin and Joe & Lorena Kovatch. Special guest appearances were made by Dave Richardson, Paul Wheeler & Janet Soucy. It was great to see some new members at the rally! Special thanks go to Bob and Gayle for hosting the event, especially the wonderful fires, Saturday night pizza and the famous "*bun on the run*" breakfast on Sunday morning.

For all members please note the upcoming rally in Hedley being hosted by Beverley Robson and Eileen Meston. This rally was maintained throughout Covid and will likely continue to be a well-attended fun event. Chris and I have just booked both the Installation Rally and Golf Rally for later this summer as well. We apologize for the late notification however we could not reach anyone at the campgrounds until early April. I encourage anyone who wants to attend any of the rallies over the summer to book sooner, rather than later, or there is a good chance you may not get a site. Unfortunately due to high demand for sites most campgrounds will no longer hold spots for the club unless we pay for all the sites in advance.

On a more sombre note on April 22nd many of us in the club said a final good bye to long standing member Gene Van Iderstine. Gene & Marilyn have been very involved in the club and it's activities for many years. Gene was well-liked and always had lots of helpful suggestions for members. Gene helped me personally as well by giving me many of his old Airstream vintage parts. We will all certainly miss Gene. On behalf of the British Columbia Airstream Club we wish Marilyn and her family our very best.

Lastly, you may soon be receiving an email voting ballot for the International Executive. A Region 10 Committee was formed to review 30 candidates who have applied for 9 Executive positions. The committee is recommending 12 of the 30 candidates for you to choose from for these 9 Executive positions. Feel free to vote as you see fit. Our sincere thanks to the Region 10 Committee for their hard work in narrowing the field.

Chris and I look forward to seeing many of you on the road this summer!

Respectfully submitted...

John Míllard



THE COMMUNITY CORNER by Arlene

The 2023 Roster is being mailed out and once you've had a look at it please advise Tom Akam of any error or change to your listing. Please email him at lighthouse13381@shaw.ca with your corrections.



Please note that, although the Vancouver Island caravan information (pages 6-7) looks the same, there are changes to the itinerary. Apologies to Fred & Esther that I didn't put in all the photos they sent.



Check out Janet Soucy's Facebook page to see the crowd that gathered for Gene Van Iderstine's Celebration of Life on Friday, April 21st (I have included a collage Janet put together on page 4). Many Airstreamers were there including the Greths who came up from Anacortes. Gene was an Elk so many fellow club members were also in attendance. A beautiful tribute to a great Airstreamer (and human being). Marilyn and Gene's sons and daughters-in-law did a superb job of putting this tribute together. Paul Wheeler gave a poignant eulogy moving many to tears.



Pull tabs are once again being collected. Tom Akam is organizing taking these tabs to be traded in for \$\$\$ for a charity...so, save them please and one of our Unit will arrange to get them to Tom.









Check us out on *Facebook*. Some sites you may enjoy are:



BC Unit Caravana WBCCI Region 10 WBCCI Wally Byam Airstream Club Airstream Addicts Airstream Hunter Airstream Courtesy Parking Airstream Canada Adventures Airstream Pets

As I fold my third load of laundry, I contemplate becoming a nudist.

Then I remember what I look like naked, and keep folding.

<u>MEMBER, WEBSITE, and ROSTER</u> <u>CHANGES</u>

NEW BC UNIT MEMBERS & AFFILIATES:

BURTON, Leisa & CROWE, David 19 Trails End Collingwood, ON, L9Y 5B1 Telephone: 519-546-2248 (Leisa) 519-821-8728 (Dave) Email: leisa.burton@icloud.com crowedave@hotmail.com Trailer: 2017 27-foot Globetrotter

BRN 08728 (BC Unit affiliates) (Home Club: Ontario Unit)



CHRISTENSON, Joyce

#607, 1371 Blackwood Street White Rock, BC, V4B 3V2 Telephone: 604-8099321 Email: joyce355@icloud.com Friend of BC Unit

ROSTER CHANGES/ADDITIONS:

The new roster has a couple of changes: Paul Wheeler's email address on page 9 should read paul.jan.wheeler@gmail.com George Dusenberry on page 2 has too many 's' in his name.

Paddy is in court, and after an 8 hour trial he pleads guilty.

Judge says, "Why didn't you plead guilty at first and save the court all this time?"

Paddy says, "I thought I was innocent until I heard all the evidence" WATCH FOR THE 2023 ROSTER COMING YOUR WAY SOON



Janet Soucy's collage of guests attending BC Unit's Past President, Gene Van Iderstine's Celebration of Life. Many Airstreamers in attendance

MAINTENANCE RALLY AT HALLIWELL'S HOMESTEAD



Lots got done. Rivets checked; care of batteries, checking hitch weights, and other good information shared.

Happy hour, then dinner AND Bob's famous 'Bun on the Run' the last morning.

Attendees included:

Attendees included: Barry Hook Barbara & Trenor Tilley Rick Mattson & Karen Griffin Joe & Lorena Kovatch Bob & Gayle Halliwell (hosts) John & Chris Millard (worker bees) Bayarlay Pobson & Eilean Matton Beverley Robson & Eileen Meston

Drive ins: Paul Wheeler & Janet Soucy Dave Richardson



The Howell's 6 month Adventure (more than a 3 hour cruise) Part 4 (this and next two pages)

Stop # 4, we packed up and pulled out of Davis Mountain State Park, with a loss of one of the caravan team when they had trouble with the air bags in the tow vehicle, so after much efforts to fix the problems by a great group of team members, we had to leave them at the Park. The next day someone was coming to fix the problem, they then chose to head home. The balance of us moved onto Roadrunner Travelers RV Park in Terlingua, Texas. What can I say, this was the most interesting place. The saying goes that half the population is avoiding the police the other half the police put there. There is a wonderful resort there called Lajitas, I know next year the Caravan has reservations to stay at the their campground . Terlingua is between Big Bend State Park and Big Bend National Park. What an amazing area!



We had dinner at the Starlight Theatre that night and its all about being on the deck of the restaurant. Great food, good entertainment. The deck has an outside bar it is where everyone gathers to chat and catch up on the day, the locals love to meet the people passing through; a good time was had by all. The next night we had dinner at the Long Draw Pizza Restaurant and they opened the restaurant just for our group. I find being part of the WBCCI that this sort of

thing happens a lot, tours and places that accommodate you because of the reputation the Airstream Group has. Also, last note amazing pizza, great conversations and fun was had by all. We did get in the truck and explore Big Bend State Park, again a park with lots of hiking and biking trails, there is only one road that runs through the

park. When you do the drive lots of stops along the way with different short walks/hikes into different features. The first two stops are what was left behind when they filmed the movie 'Contrabando' in the park. Other stops along the route are Big Hill, Closed Canyon, Colorado Canyon, and of course the Hoodoos. The end of the route takes you into Fort Leaton State Historical site. I think these are places that should be put on your bucket list.





Finishing up in Terlingua we moved into Big Bend National Park, we stayed at the Rio Grande Village RV Park, it was as close to the bottom end of the National Park as you can get. From the sites you could walk to the Rio Grande River, we also saw Coyotes that I do not think were very happy we had arrived; they were not a bit interested in us, they just wanted out of our way asap. What we found out the next day from the Park Rangers, was that we are right on the Texas National Park border and the Cerro Del Veinte, Mexico National Park. The residents of Bouquillas, Mexico have an agreement with the park service to allow their cattle and horses to just roam free, so we did see cattle and we did have the opportunity to see a horse with her baby wander through the grounds.

Upon our arrival we were on our own... the suggestion was to drive up to Sierra Del Carmens to watch the sunset, you could also, if you own a bathing suit, soak in the Hot Springs, in the same location. Sunset I am sure if the weather had been not overcast would have been amazing, for those in the group that braved the Hot Springs, found them very relaxing (I guess I will have to invest in a bathing suit for next trip).

Day two in Big Bend, we travelled to Bouquillas—what an amazing trip. So let me explain; you drive to the park crossing; you do need to have a passport, or a Nexus card with you. When you arrive, Park Rangers explain what you can purchase and bring back, what you cannot purchase and will be confiscated it you bring it back. Now comes the fun, its a short hike down to the Rio Grande River, under normal weather you can chose to walk across the river, or you can for \$5.00 return trip be rowed across the river. Due to the height and flow of the river we all had to row across. The

row boat was aluminum, no engine, just oars and duct tape patching the boat, fortunately its a very short crossing. When you arrive on the other side, you have three choices of transportation into Bouquillas. So you can walk the 1/2 mile along the dirt road, you can pay for a ride in the back of questionable trucks or ride a horse or burro. Well I grew up riding horses so that did not appeal to me, so yes I chose the Burro! It was fun and they are temperamental, or maybe just stubborn. We had an amazing time in Bouquillas, the residents live very simple lives, the kids all go to a one room



school house, grades K to 7. The surprise was the amazing restaurant with a huge history. Its now run by the daughter of the original owner/developer of Jose Falcons. A great time was had by all. Good food, great Margaritas and cold beer. When Jose was injured in a work accident, he became wheelchair-bound, he decided to start this restaurant, and now it is being carried on by his daughter.

This town has no electricity, some places do not have running water, its very basic, now having said that, they have a cell tower, everyone has cell phones, and they recently installed a solar field, so they can run pumps and fridges. One thing we felt leaving there is that everyone seemed happy with the simplest life, it made us realize that we have way too much. I need to say great hiking, amazing views and such a diversification in plants, from the low desert to the high mountain side deserts, yes, they still call the mountains high desert. We experienced wildlife on our hikes, Jackrabbits, when they stand on their back legs, are big. We had the pleasure of catching glimpses of the Famous Roadrunners, no Wylie coyote at same place, even though we did have as I mentioned the pleasure of seeing them at the camp site. This is a place both Patrick and I will go back to it needs more time than we had and more exploration. The final day was sort of a catch-up day, where (how boring can I be) I did laundry, cleaned the trailer and prepared for our last stop with the group.

We moved onto our final stop at the Marathon Motel and RV Park. Marathon is a town on the edge of the closest thing we have to the American frontier in the 21st. century. Marathon was built in the 1800's on the railroad and ranching industries. Part of that life is still there, the railway still runs through Marathon, still in existence is the town's first schoolhouse, now a museum. Captain Sheppard's house built in 1860 is named for the railroad surveyor who founded the town and is a fully restored piece to the famous Gage family Hotel. As this was our last stop we did not have a lot of time to really explore this location—it has a lot of artisans in the area, some quite famous. Art galleries to wander in, and the Rusty Rabbit, which has books, pottery, jew-

ellery and photographs from James Evans. We had lunch in the local coffee shop, they even, for me, had gluten free sandwiches—amazing in such a small town. Other activities going on which we had a short glimpse of was local musicians all performing at the local grocery store come small restaurant, large outdoor area with a stage. Everyone was friendly and welcoming. I want to just thank Rick and Debbie Trimble our leaders and Brain and Nancy Powers the volunteer coleaders — without them this would not have been such an amazing experience.



Leaving was bitter sweet, we said goodbye to new friends, and everyone at different times in the morning, we moved onto Fredricksburg, I will chat about this in next addition.

Patrick & Janet Howell BRN 6035



1970-25' Vintage Airstream Trailer, San Antonio, TX \$110,000 USD

Meticulously maintained 1970 25' Vintage Airstream completely renovated by the Airstream Factory Service Center plus recent upgrades by A & P Vintage Trailer Works. Solar, ion lithium batteries and ample storage throughout for boondocking and long term trips. Custom hickory cabinetry & aluminum inside for a cabin on wheels look. Also available tow vehicle 2018 Chevrolet Silverado 2500 Duramax Diesel-36,000 miles. Complete details & additional photos available by contacting Joseph Webb 512-630-7053 jbwsahome@gmail.com or Victoria Summy 512-635-5782 vssummy@yahoo.com

Victoria Summy 512-635-5782 BC Unit Affiliate







Vancouver Island Airstream Caravan

Dates: September 21 to 29, 2023

1. September 21 to 23 Camping at Quatse River Campground near Port Hardy BC. To make reservations, call the Campground directly at (250) 949-2395 or check out the website https://quatsecampground.ca/. They have 30 amp sites with water, and a dump station at the exit. *The best way to book is to use the website, book your*

dates and put in the note that this if for the Airstream Caravan. Cost: \$46.50 per



There are multiple activities that we can do from there including a visit to Caps Scott Provincial Park and the San Josef Bay beach https://www.bcmag.ca/explore-san-josef-bay -cape-scott-provincial-park/.

A short ferry ride to Alert Bay and visit to the U'mista Cultural Centre is worth the time. https://www.bcmag.ca/explore-san-josef-bay -cape-scott-provincial-park/

there is Telegraph Cove with its historical boardwalk and wonderful Whale museum. https:// www.killerwhalecentre.org/









2. For September 24 to 26, We are planning to camp at the Crystal Cove Beach Resort – 1165 Cedarwood Place, Tofino BC, VOR 2Z0 Tel: (250) 725-4213 https://www.crystalcove.ca/

The cost will be between \$ 90 and \$ 110 per night

depending on the site chosen. The best way book is to call and tell them you are calling for a site for the Airstream Caravan.

This is a private resort with nice facilities and a private beach access. They have space for the dates in September at this point, but sites will need to be reserved soon. I went there to look at the resort after realizing that camping at Pacific Rim National park was not going to be feasible. Of the three RV parks I visited in the area, this is definitely the nicest one. The sites have water hydro and sewer. There are great facilities for meetings, laundry and relaxing. The location is close to Tofino and access to the multiuse trail that stretches from Tofino to Ucluelet is close. A good place to bring bicycles or e-bikes to use on the trail. We can also easily get to Pacific Rim National Park and its trails, either by the multiuse trail or on the road.

The office has a large patio for relaxing and meetings. With a store for snacks and drinks.

The sites are separated by mature trees and undergrowth, giving a sense of privacy.

Continued from previous page...



3. For September 27 to 29 We are planning to camp in Victoria at the Salish Seaside RV Resort and Marina, https://

www.salishseasidervhaven.com/ This resort has only 8 sites available for the dates I requested. If more than 8 units want to take part, we could look at other alternatives in the area for any extra campers. The location I across the harbour from the main marina, and it is easy to take a water taxi to the other side and explore downtown Victoria. All sites have full services and

nice concrete pads. They are willing to hold 8 sites for us until May 15, so we have to book and confirm by then. Cost for the sites vary somewhat by the size and location of sites. From \$ 92 to \$ 132 per night per site. Their preference would be for me to book the sites all through one person, and I would need to have first nights deposit paid. So please let me know as soon as possible if you would like to take part in this caravan.

To organize the caravan, it would be helpful to have a list of people interested in coming. This mini caravan is nine days on Vancouver Island. We will be doing it in three campgrounds, three days each, covering the north end of Vancouver Island near Port Hardy to the west coast near Tofino and Uclulet then south to Victoria. The activities

can include tours we can do as a group such as a ferry ride as walk on passengers to Alert Bay and the U'mista Cultural Centre, or a carpool to the trail leading to San Josef Beach. There are also many things at each site suitable for small groups or individual activities.

For some activities such as boat tours for wildlife viewing, these need to be booked ahead of time, and we can see how many people are interested in doing these. I will draw up a list of possible activities with costs and e-mail these



out in advance of the Caravan/Rally, so that interested participants can sign up and we can book them in advance.

Many campgrounds on Vancouver island remain open year round, and if people want to extend the stay on the island that certainly is a possibility.

The best way to arrive on the island would be to come in to Nanaimo, either from Tsawwassen or from Horseshoe Bay ferry terminals, and drive up to Quatse River Campground, Port Hardy on September 21. It is an easy comfortable drive on good pavement from Departure Bay or Duke Point ferry terminals. About 385 kilometers just over 4 hours of driving time.

Fred Kaethler <u>fredkaethler@hotmail.com</u> Cell: 519 588 8059 Address: 2245 Florence Drive, Nanoose Bay BC, V9P 9E9

British Columbia Unit #121 2023 Activity Schedule

DATE	EVENT	HOST(S)	<u>STATUS</u>	
Every Tuesday 9:00 am	Coffee/Breakfast Get-Together Roadhouse Grille 1781 King George Boulevard Surrey, BC	Tom Akam 604-538-4149 To reserve your spot		
June 23-25	Hedley Hoe-Down Rally Riverhaven RV Park, Hedley	Beverley Robson & Eileen Meston brobson@telus.net	Book your spot with Beverley	
June 24-30	66th Airstream Club International Rally — Fully booked — Wait List only Rock Springs, Wyoming			
August 25-27	Installation Rally Quilchena Point RV Marina Quilchena, BC (just east of Merritt)	John & Chris Millard with Trenor & Barbara Tilley		
September 15-17	3rd Annual Golf Rally Twin Lakes Golf Course and RV Park Kaleden, BC	John & Chris Millard millard12581@gmail.com	Let John know if you are interested	
September 21-29	Caravan on Vancouver Island (see outline in this newsletter)	If interested email Fred Kaethler at fredkaethler@hotmail.com Or phone 519-588-8059		
December 2	Christmas Luncheon White Spot Aldergrove, BC	Trenor & Barbara Tilley		
<u>2024</u>			the second se	
Aug.25-Sept.1	Fishing Rally Loon Bay Resort	Bob & Gayle Halliwell halliwell4840@telus.net	vs	

778-808-7257

Plan now to attend this International Rally as this one is close to home and happening late June when the weather is fine in Wyoming. There is a 'wait list' for the rally but get your name on it... It should be lots of fun...

Sheridan Lake, BC



HEDLEY 2023 RALLY

JUNE 23 (Friday) to 26 (depart Monday morning)

CALLING ALL AIRSTREAMERS

The time has come:

- 1. To seriously consider coming to our annual beautiful Hedley camping event. **BONUS:** This year there won't be any rally fee!!
- 2. Make your reservations at RIVERHAVEN RV CAMPGROUND. Call Doug or Lindsay at:

RIVERHAVEN RV & MOTEL 6165 HWY #3 1-250-292-8221 Website: RIVERHAVENRV.COM

- 3. Let Bev know that you're registered to attend the rally.<u>brobson@telus.net</u>
- 4. It's as simple as that!
- 5. What to expect: Happy hour starting at 4-5 pm Friday and a good time of getting acquainted. Happy hours each evening after that. Group breakfast and, yes, there will be gluten free options. Lunch or dinner at one of the Similkimeen wineries. Games and activities. Campfires if there aren't any fire bans. Good times of getting to know one another. Time to "do your own thing". Bring your golf clubs as that is always an option. Eating together with your neighbours. And oh yes, PRIZES!
- 6. THEN STAY TUNED FOR REGULAR UPDATES VIA EMAIL FROM BEV & EILEEN.



Why not carry your old expired Blue Beret magazines with you when you travel? There are future members all over North American and Europe who would love to



enjoy the Wally Byam Airstream Club lifestyle. Many owners (new and old) don't know of the club and a dust-collecting Blue Beret may be just the incentive to join us.

Tom Akam maintains on his computer an up-to-date alphabetical roster, a list of updates (corrections, additions and deletions) and separate rosters for (1) the Interior/Okanagan. (2) the Islands and (3) the United States. Upon request to <u>lighthouse13381(@shaw.ca</u> (or 604-538-4149), he will email members copies either as a Word document or as a PDF — your choice.





COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Budget Committee Tom Akam & the VPs Caravan Committee McGills Nominating Committee John Millard and two others to be selected **Community Service** Alex & Arlene Matches Equipment Chairman John Millard Hospitality & Sunshine Arlene Matches Membership & Mentoring Marilyn Van Iderstine Newsletter Editor Arlene Matches Roster & Handbook Tom Akam Safety Chairman Vacant **Telephone Committee** Vacant Unit Historian Vacant Webmaster Monty Sheldan Youth Ambassador Vacant







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!!...SMILE...!!

Glenn Peters

Toll Free Pager:

President, John Millard, requests new and affiliate members to please forward their info (photo and bio) for inclusion on the BC Unit website. We also encourage our regular and affiliate members who haven't done so to add a picture and update their biographies as well. Our Web Master, Monty Sheldan is working on an upgrade for our website and you will be advised when these changes are completed. Monty's email is msheldan@mac.com.



Tom Akam has a printable and up-to-date version of our Mini Roster in Word format which he will email upon request. Tom's email address is: lighthouse13381@shaw.ca